



### **Dr Iain Ferguson – Pen Picture**

Senior Lecturer in Social Work in the Department of Applied Social Sciences at the University of Stirling, Scotland. Prior to moving into social work education in 1990 (University of Paisley, 1990- 2001), he worked for fourteen years as a social worker, community worker, practice teacher and mental health officer in a variety of settings in the West of Scotland. His main teaching and research interests are in the areas of mental health service user involvement, the experience of refugees and asylum seekers, critical/radical social work theory and practice, and international social work.

With Michael Lavalette, he was joint winner of the 2008 Frank Turner Prize awarded by the Board of the journal *International Social Work* for the article judged to have been the best to have appeared in the journal in the preceding year (having been runners-up in 2007). He is one of the authors of the *Manifesto for Social Work and Social Justice* ([www.socialworkfuture.org](http://www.socialworkfuture.org)) and a member of the Organising Committee of the annual UK conference series *Social Work: a Profession Worth Fighting For?* He has held various administrative posts within Stirling University and am currently Chair of the Departmental Ethics Committee. He has also been an External Examiner for the MSc in Social Work Programme at the Glasgow School of Social Work and am currently an External Examiner with the Open University.

### **Selected Recent and Forthcoming Publications**

Ferguson, I. and Woodward, R. (2009, forthcoming) *Radical Social Work in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, Bristol: Policy Press

Ferguson, I. (2009, forthcoming) 'An Attitude Problem? Confidence and Well-being in Scotland' in Miller, D., McCafferty, T. and Davidson, N. (eds.) *Neo-Liberal Scotland: Re-thinking Scotland in a Global Context*, Cambridge: Cambridge Publications

Ferguson, I (2008) *Reclaiming Social Work: Challenging Neo-Liberalism and Promoting Social Justice*, London: Sage

Ferguson, I. (2008) 'Neoliberalism, happiness and well-being', *International Socialism*, 117, 87- 121

Ferguson, I. (2007) 'Increasing Choice or Privatising Risk? The Antinomies of Personalization', *British Journal of Social Work*, 37(3):387-403

Lavalette, M. and Ferguson, I. (2007) (eds.) *International Social Work and the Radical Tradition*, London: Venture Press, (Sponsored by the British Association of Social Workers and the International Federation of Social Workers)

Lavalette, M. and Ferguson, I. (2007) 'Democratic language and neo-liberal practice: The problem with civil society', *International Social Work*.2007; 50: 447-459 (Joint Winner of the Frank Turner Prize)

Ferguson, I. (2007) "'Dreaming a Great Dream": prospects for a new, radical social work', *Canadian Review of Social Work*, 24(1), 2007, pp.55-68

Ferguson, I. and Ager, W. (2007) 'Ways of Knowing' in McPhail, M. (ed.) *Service User and Carer Involvement: Beyond Good Intentions. Policy and Practice in Health and Social Care*, Edinburgh: Dunedin

Ferguson, I. (2006) 'Radical Social Work in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century', *Socialno Delo* (Journal of Slovenian Social Work), 45, 183-187

Ferguson, I. and Lavalette, M. (2006) 'Globalization and global justice: Towards a social work of resistance', *International Social Work* 49: 309-318, May 2006 (Runner-up for the Frank Turner Prize)

Ferguson, I., Lavalette, M. and Whitmore, E. (2004) (eds.) *Globalisation, Global Justice and Social Work*, London: Taylor and Francis

Stalker, K., Ferguson, I. and Barclay, A. (2005) "'It's a horrible term for someone": service user and provider perspectives on 'personality disorder' (with K. Stalker and A. Barclay), *Disability and Society*, 20 (4)

Ferguson, I. and Lavalette, M. (2004) 'Beyond Power Discourse: Alienation and Social Work', *British Journal of Social Work*, 34: 297-312

Ferguson, I. (2004) 'Neo-liberalism, the Third Way and Social Work: the UK experience' *Social Work and Society*, Volume 2, Issue 1 (online journal)

### **Proposed title of keynote address**

'"All that is solid melts into air": social work and the global crisis of neo-liberalism'.